

Message Text

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47

ACTION NEA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5898

UNCLAS CAIRO 8136

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: OTRA EG KU ZA KE IR

SUBJECT: WHITE HOUSE FELLOWS

REF: A. STATE 193030 B. CAIRO 7429

1. WHITE HOUSE FELLOWS' VISIT TO CAIRO JULY 27-29 WAS VERY SUCCESSFUL FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF EXPOSURE OF THIS SELECT GROUP OF YOUNG PEOPLE TO THE SITUATION IN EGYPT AND MIDDLES EAST PROBLEMS IN GENERAL. FOLLOWING A THOROUGH EMBASSY BRIEFING, THEY WERE GUESTS OF LARGEST EGYPTIAN NEWSPAPER, AL AHRAM WITH SIDE CIRCULATION IN ARAB WORLD, AND ENGAGED IN LIVELY DISCUSSION WITH EDITORS AND JOURNALISTS DURING WHICH FELLOWS PUT FORWARD AMERICAN VIEW ON VARIOUS SUBJECTS OF MUTUAL INTEREST. IN EVENING OF SAME DAY FELLOWS WERE TENDERED TEA PARTY BY PRIMIN SALEM FOLLOWED BY A ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION IN WHICH NOT ONLY PM, BUT ALSO SEVERAL MEMBERS OF GOE CABINET, PARTICIPATED. THIS DISCUSSION SERVED TO FURTHER KNOWLEDGE AND EDUCATION OF FELLOWS ON EGYPT AND EGYPTIAN POLICY.

2. BECAUSE OF THEIR CONNECTION WITH WHITE HOUSE, EGYPTIANS GAVE FELLOWS UNUSUALLY WARM RECEPTION, EVEN EXCEEDING THE NORMALLY GRACIOUS MANNER IN WHICH THEY REGULARLY RECEIVE DISTINGUISHED AMERICAN VISITORS. FELLOWS' VISIT CERTAINLY SERVED TO PROMOTE FRIENDLY RELATIONS BETWEEN US AND EGYPT. PROGRAM WAS ORGANIZED BY EMBASSY AND WAS DESIGNED TO EXPOSE THEM TO LOCAL CONTACTS WHO WE FELT COULD CONTRIBUTE TO THEIR FURTHER UNDERSTANDING OF EGYPT AND MIDDLE EAST. ADDITIONAL UNANTICIPATED BONUS WAS ATTENDANCE OF SEVERAL CABINET

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MINISTERS AT MEETING WHICH EMBASSY HAD ARRANGED WITH PM.

3. RE GROUP'S PREPARATION, THOSE MEMBERS WHO HAD APPARENTLY
BEEN SPECIFICALLY CHARGED WITH STUDYING EGYPT HAD DONE
GOOD JOB AND REMAINDER WERE GENERALLY WELL INFORMED.
EILTS

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